

**RESOURCE TEAM
MEETING #15 REPORT**

**KNOXVILLE
PARKWAY
CONTEXT SENSITIVE
SOLUTIONS**

**“REGIONAL PARKWAY DESIGN
RESOURCE TEAM”**



**March 29, 2006
and
April 5, 2006**

**National Transportation Research Center
Knoxville, TN
Mary R. English, Ph.D., Facilitator**

Knoxville Parkway, Context Sensitive Solutions Resource Team Meeting #15

INTRODUCTION

The fifteenth Regional Parkway Design Resource Team Meeting was held on March 29, 2006, at the National Transportation Research Center in Knoxville, Tennessee. The meeting continued on April 5, 2006 at the same location.

AGENDA

- 8:45 AM** Sign-in
- 9:00 AM** Introduction and Review of Meeting Goals – *David Lindeman, Palmer Engineering*
- 9:15 AM** Review Workshop Comments – *David Lindeman, Palmer Engineering*
- 9:45 AM** Is there anything in alignment recommendations that you want to reconsider after reading the workshop comments? – *Facilitator*
- 10:15 AM** Break
- 10:30 AM** Project Parameters – *Facilitator*
- 10:45 AM** Team Goals – *Facilitator*
- 11:00 AM** Chronology and Process – *Facilitator*
- 11:30 AM** Team Recommendations – *Facilitator*
- NOON** Break for lunch
- 1:00 PM** Team Recommendations Continued – *Facilitator*
- 1:30 PM** Issue Group Recommendations – *Facilitator*
- 2:15 PM** Break
- 2:30 PM** Adjunct Recommendations – *Facilitator*
- 3:15 PM** Going Forward – *Facilitator*
- 3:45 PM** *Conclusion and Signing of Recommendation – David Lindeman, Palmer Engineering*
- 4:00 PM** Adjourn

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INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW OF GOALS

David Lindeman with Palmer Engineering opened and reviewed the goals for the meeting. Team members have previously received a draft recommendation that was made by combining decisions that had been made at previous meetings. The Resource Team will review and finalize their recommendation to TDOT. Minority Reports received by April 10 will be given to the CSS Policy Group along with the Team's Recommendation.

REVIEW OF WORKSHOP COMMENTS

A tally of the workshop "check box" responses was given to the team. Other workshop tallies that were prepared by team members were also given to the team. One of the team members had a tally that tried to group the responses according to where people lived rather than where they attended a workshop. Two other members had performed a tally of written comments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mary English, the facilitator, walked the group through the recommendation section by section and asked the members if there was anything in the recommendation that they wanted to reconsider. The Team did not finish their discussion on March 29 and extensive rewriting of the draft recommendation was required based on their comments so the meeting was continued on April 5. Following is a list of the items discussed and the result, grouped by sections of the recommendation:

ALIGNMENT

No Changes.

PROJECT PARAMETERS and TEAM GOALS

Changed to three sections: BACKGROUND, PARAMETERS, and TEAM OBJECTIVES.

The BACKGROUND section gives a short history of the project before April 2004.

The PARAMETERS section was reworded to make the parameters clearer.

The GOALS section was changed to OBJECTIVES and now lists the Team's mission statement and a definition of consensus.

CHRONOLOGY AND PROCESS

Changed to PROCESS AND CHRONOLOGY and was reformatted to list a date for each meeting followed by a description.

RECOMMENDED DESIGN FEATURES

This section was divided into BASIC DESIGN FEATURE RECOMMENDATIONS and INTERCHANGE RECOMMENDATIONS

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BASIC DESIGN FEATURE RECOMMENDATIONS

70 mph is still the recommended design speed adding “with posted speed to be determined.”

Flexibility of varying median width. There was concern that recommending a 52-foot depressed median would not allow designers any flexibility to modify that width where feasible and appropriate to improve the road’s aesthetics. TDOT design representatives said that this is a nominal dimension and not meant to be a rigid requirement.

Billboard restriction wording expanded to recommend that TDOT both seek scenic designation and pursue other strategies as necessary to prohibit billboards along SR 475.

INTERCHANGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Should an interchange at Raccoon Valley Road be added to the recommendation? The opinions of most of the group were against an interchange at Raccoon Valley Road and it was not added to the recommendation.

There were concerns that Doug Horne’s proposed interchange on I-40 west of SR 475 would cause congestion that would affect SR 475. A recommendation was added that no new interchanges be built on I-40 or I-75 within two miles of their junction with SR 475.

ADDITIONAL TOPIC-SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Changed “false cuts” to “berms” and described use to create illusion of cuts.

Expanded landscaping recommendation to specify “appropriate species” and to be implemented as soon as possible.

Added recommendation for more study of Pierce’s Pit to determine appropriate mitigation.

Added “Trails should be posted to prohibit motorized vehicles.”

Additional item under Greenways to “Work with willing landowners on extension of greenways outside of right of way.” This was added because it is Knox County’s policy.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Added five recommendations relating to landscaping.

Added recommendation to consider sustainable design strategies such as porous pavement.

ADDITIONAL LOCATION-SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Adjunct recommendation to extend control of access on Pellissippi Parkway to Melton Hill Lake.

Expanded George Light Road recommendation for clarity and to recommend accommodating QualPro on their existing property.

GOING FORWARD: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC INPUT

Added recommendation to have an on site office during construction to handle public questions and concerns.

All 17 of the Team members present signed the recommendation and the 18th signed later.

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ATTENDEES

31 people attended the March 29, 2006 Regional Parkway Design Resource Team meeting. The names and organizations of the people who attended the meeting are as follows.

Resource Team

John Benditz
Edgar Faust
Greg Fay
Carolyn Greenwood
Brian Jenks
David Lambert
Bill McMaster
Karen Nolt
David Reister
Robert Shaw
Wes Stowers
Roland Terrell
Sharon Todd
Bruce Wuethrich
Tom Tucker

Stakeholder Group

TN Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers
Hardin Valley Community
East TN Economic Development Agency
Karns Community
Anderson County Government
Better Roads In North Knoxville (BRINK)
Heiskell Community
Knox County Parks & Recreation
Sierra Club
Citizens Against the Beltway Orange Location (CABOL)
Knoxville Area Chamber Partnership
Solway Area Residents Association
Claxton Community
Knox County Government
Solway Area Residents Association (sub until Roland arrived)

TDOT

Michael Agnew
Travis Brickey
Dennis Cook
Doug Delany
Tom Love
Mike Russell
Bob Woodson

Title

TDOT – Assistant Director Design
TDOT - Region 1 - Community Relations
TDOT – Asst. Chief of Environment and Planning
TDOT – Environmental
TDOT - Environmental
TDOT – Region 1 - Project Management
TDOT – Region 1 – Right of Way

Advisors

Mary English
Fred Frank
Donna Norton
Leigh Ann Tribble
Jeff Welch

Organization

UT – Research Leader - Energy, Environment and Resources Center
Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization
Tennessee Valley Authority – Watts Bar – Clinch Watershed Team
Federal Highway Administration
Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Consultants

David Lindeman
Eric Fischer
Stephen Sewell
Bill Davis

Company

Palmer Engineering - CSS Consultant
Palmer Engineering - CSS Consultant
Palmer Engineering - CSS Consultant
Vaughn & Melton – Cave Survey Consultant

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ATTENDEES

23 people attended the April 5, 2006 Regional Parkway Design Resource Team meeting. This meeting was a continuation of the March 29 meeting. The names and organizations of the people who attended the meeting are as follows.

Resource Team

John Benditz
Edgar Faust
Greg Fay
Steve Fritts
Carolyn Greenwood
Brian Jenks
David Lambert
Bill McMaster
Chip Miller
Karen Nolt
Mac Post
David Reister
Robert Shaw
Wes Stowers
Roland Terrell
Sharon Todd
Bruce Wuethrich

Stakeholder Group

TN Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers
Hardin Valley Community
East TN Economic Development Agency
TN Technology Corridor Development Authority
Karns Community
Anderson County Government
Better Roads In North Knoxville (BRINK)
Heiskell Community
Loudon County
Knox County Parks & Recreation
Powell Community
Sierra Club
Citizens Against the Beltway Orange Location (CABOL)
Knoxville Area Chamber Partnership
Solway Area Residents Association
Claxton Community
Knox County Government

TDOT

Travis Brickey
Mike Russell

Title

TDOT - Region 1 - Community Relations
TDOT – Region 1- Project Management

Advisors

Mary English
Fred Frank

Organization

UT – Research Leader - Energy, Environment and Resources Center
Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Consultants

Eric Fischer
Stephen Sewell

Company

Palmer Engineering - CSS Consultant
Palmer Engineering - CSS Consultant